

## Security Council expects global solution

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — The Security Council expressed hope Monday that the peace pact between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) will lead to a lasting peace in the Middle East. The agreement "will open the way for a permanent solution of all the issues involved in the Middle East problems and for the definitive installation of the peace and tranquility in that part of the world," the council said. In a prepared statement, the council congratulated both the Israelis and the Palestinians "for the courage and the statesmanship with which they have undertaken the initiative that have led to this outstanding result." The council called the pact "one of the most remarkable breakthroughs in the search for peace in the Middle East." The signing of the accord was "a historic step towards the solution of one of the most difficult and delicate problems that have been affecting the international peace and security during the last three decades," the council said. U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali will meet Tuesday with PLO leader Yasser Arafat in New York, a U.N. spokesman said Monday.

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# PLO, Israel sign historic deal

## Highly-charged White House ceremony raises hopes for end to decades of conflict

Combined agency dispatches

WASHINGTON — Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) signed an historic agreement here Monday on Palestinian autonomy in the occupied territories, after 45 years of bitter Middle East conflict.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin sealed the pact with an unscripted handshake in perhaps the most dramatic moment of the ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House.

"Enough of blood and tears, enough," Mr. Rabin said. "The time for peace has come."

Mr. Arafat, wearing a military-style suit and his trademark keffiyeh headress for the first visit by a PLO official to the White House, said: "My people are hoping that this agreement that we are signing today means the beginning of the end of a chapter of pain and suffering."

"Now as we stand on the threshold of this new historic era," Mr. Arafat said, "we will need more courage and determination" to ensure lasting peace.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and PLO Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas signed the pact on Palestinian autonomy starting with the Gaza Strip and the West Bank town of Jericho.

Monday's scene would have been unthinkable even a week ago — Mr. Rabin sharing a podium with his long-time foe Mr. Arafat in a ceremony hosted by U.S. President Bill Clinton.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev also initiated the accord, as co-sponsors of the Middle East peace process began in Madrid in October 1991.

But those talks made little progress, and it was secret Norwegian-brokered negotiations between Israel and the PLO which succeeded where 22 months of public talks had failed, in reaching agreement on some

measure of Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territories.

"Today we bear witness to an extraordinary event in one of history's defining moments," Mr. Clinton said in his opening remarks in a ceremony shown live on all the major U.S. television networks.

Half a world away, Palestinians flocked festively to the streets to celebrate the pen strokes that would deliver self-rule.

Clinton's speech before the signing, Mr. Clinton set a biblical tone to the proceedings, recalling the ancient origins of "one of history's defining drama."

"Now both pledge to put old sorrows and antagonisms behind them and to work for a shared future, shaped by the values of

the Torah, the Koran and the Bible."

He praised Mr. Rabin, Mr. Peres and Mr. Arafat for displaying courage in their bid for peace.

"Their tenacity and vision has given us the promise of a new beginning," he said.

"Their achievement must be a catalyst for progress in all aspects of the peace process," he said, emphasising that it must be supported by the international com-

munity.

"I pledge the active support of the United States of America to the difficult work that lies ahead," he said.

The United States was committed to the security of the peoples of the region, he said, and would lead the world in marshalling the resources needed to implement the agreement.

"The children of Abraham, the descendants of Isaac and

(Continued on page 5)

## Peace accord draws mixed reactions from Jordanians ...

By Sabah Obeidat  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The signing of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)-Israel agreement on self-rule for the Palestinians drew mixed reactions from Jordanians, who either expressed relief and satisfaction with the historic step towards peace or felt disappointment for what they saw as a deal that falls far short of the aspirations of the Arab and Palestinian peoples.

Ahmad Obeidat, former prime minister and member of the Upper House of Parliament, spoke for the opposition camp, by saying "the general feeling is that (the agreement) seems like a liquidation rather than (a step towards) a just, comprehensive and lasting peaceful settlement" to the Palestinian problem.

"This feeling is not without basis," Mr. Obeidat said. "It stems from the mystery that has surrounded the agreement,



Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres signs the agreement on Palestinian autonomy at a ceremony at the White House Monday. (Left to right) Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, an unidentified aide, U.S. President Bill Clinton, Mr. Peres, Palestine Libera-



tion Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher and PLO Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas. After the signing ceremony (photo on right), Mr. Arafat shakes hands with Mr. Rabin, who gets a hug from Mr. Clinton (APF photos)

mainly with regard to the question of Arab sovereignty over the land and the Palestinian refugees who fled to Jordan in 1967, as well as the repercussions of these issues on Jordan.

Ali Al Kayed, a surgeon at Al Basit Hospital, described the signing ceremony at the White House yesterday in these words: "It seemed like a celebration ... Rabin was disgusted with Arafat and did not even want to shake hands with him, and yet the Palestinian delegation was all smiles and rejoicing on the occasion."

"I hope though that it (the signing) would serve the Palestinian cause and the Arab Nation. We all want peace to prevail in our region."

Haytham Batayneh, an engineer said:

"The Arab Nation can in no way accomplish anything by force either now or in the foreseeable future, and so anything they can get from Israel

is good for us."

Barakat Al Azzam, director of the public relations department at the Irbid Telecommunication Corporation said that "although people saw this (development) coming, it was an event that I watched with

(Continued on page 5)

shock," Mr. Azzam added. "On the contrary, I feel the impending dangers overwheming any other feeling I might have. This (development) takes place within the context of a desperate Arab position and a lack of balance on all levels. This is Israel's real chance to perpetuate the status quo for years to come. I believe that injustice has been done to the overwhelming majority of the Palestinian people."

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(Continued on page 5)

## .... as refugees demonstrate

By P.V. Vivekanand

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

BEQAA CAMP — Residents of this sprawling Palestinian refugee camp Monday staged a noisy demonstration and a partial general strike to protest the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) autonomy agreement.

"PLO, PLO, no to Gaza-Jericho, yes to all of Palestine," chanted the mostly teenage protesters, many among them masked, emulating their intifada brethren across the River Jordan.

No major events were reported from other camps in Jordan. Beqaa is seen by observers as a barometer of Palestinian sentiments.

Many shops were closed after a dozen youths cruised through the narrow winding streets of this camp, the biggest in Jordan with 160,000 residents, ordering merchants to shutter their businesses to protect "the darkest day in the

history of the Palestinian people."

But the divisions in Palestinian ranks over the controversial Israel-PLO peace accord were clearly visible.

Many shopkeepers ignored the orders to close. Many of them even put up posters of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and hoisted the Palestinian flag atop electricity poles.

A group of supporters of Fatah, the mainstream PLO faction co-founded by Mr. Arafat, went around pasting Arafat posters, only to have them torn down and stamped upon by rival Hamas activists as soon as the Fatah crowd turned the corner.

Policemen watched impassively and did not intervene. "Our orders are to do nothing unless the law and order situation is threatened," said a security source. "It is the democratic right of the people to demonstrate, but they should not turn violent or challenge others' rights also to pro-

(Continued on page 5)

test."

Elderly men sat outside their homes, sipping coffee and reading newspapers or listening to the radio to catch the latest news from occupied Jerusalem and Washington, where Mr. Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin were signing the accord.

Although tension ran high in Beqaa, both sides of the Gaza Strip, paralysed for most of the day by the strike called by Islamic groups angered by the deal giving autonomy to the Gaza Strip and Jericho on the West Bank.

Troops opened fire on stone-throwing youths in Gaza City, wounding eight, witnesses said, while another two Palestinians were injured in clashes near Shati refugee camp.

The strike ended at 3:00 p.m.

(1300 GMT) and gave way in Gaza City and West Bank towns to chaotic celebrations of the agreement signed at the White House at a ceremony which saw a historic handshake between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

In Gaza City, tens of thousands of flag-waving Palestinians poured out of their homes and staged riotous processions which

united in a huge gathering on Palestine square.

Gazans criss-crossed the city in trucks draped with the green, red, black and white Palestinian flag, hanging from cars, riding bikes and donkey carts, waving posters of Mr. Arafat and singing his praises.

Celebrations were reported in most towns and refugee camps in Gaza, from Rafah on the border with Egypt to Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya in the north.

They came from the desperate refugee camps of the Gaza Strip, from the poverty-stricken slums and the luxury villas overlooking the Mediterranean Sea to celebrate of a new dawn for the Palestinian people.

Shots were fired in the air in celebration in Rafah and Khan Younis.

At 3:00 p.m. (1300 GMT) on the dot, Palestinians began streaming out of their homes chanting slogans praising Mr. Arafat.

Drums beating, car horns blaring, they danced, sang and chanted their joy.

"Palestine, Palestine," echoed off the buildings, to be followed by the national anthem "Biladi, Biladi."

Few could remember such tremulously emotional scenes.

## King, Queen return home

AMMAN (J.T.) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor returned home Monday after an eight-day private visit to the United Kingdom during which the King held talks with British Prime Minister John Major and Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd on the recent developments in the Arab-Israel peace process, bilateral relations and regional and international issues.

Upon arrival, Their Majesties were received by His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad, the personal representative of the King. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and a number of princes and princesses.

"I hope though that it (the signing) would serve the Palestinian cause and the Arab Nation. We all want peace to prevail in our region."

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"The Arab Nation can in no way accomplish anything by force either now or in the foreseeable future, and so anything they can get from Israel

is good for us."

Also at the airport were Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al



His Majesty King Hussein is received upon his return home Monday by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali (Petra photo)

Majali, Senate's Deputy Speaker Bahjat Talhouni, Royal Court Chief Khaled Al Karaki, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zaid and others.

## Palestinians dance with joy

Combined agency dispatches

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Palestinians greeted the signing of a pact on limited self-rule with joyous celebrations Monday after opponents of the agreement shut down the Gaza Strip and West Bank with a protest strike.

Ten Palestinians were shot and wounded by Israeli troops in the Gaza Strip, paralysed for most of the day by the strike called by Islamic groups angered by the deal giving autonomy to the Gaza Strip and Jericho on the West Bank.

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# Middle East News

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1993

## Palestinian refugees are divided over return to homeland

By Rana Sabbagh  
Reuter

**AMMAN** — Many poor Palestinians in Jordan hope an Israeli-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) pact will let them leave their squallid camps, but members of the thriving Palestinian business community have mixed feelings about returning home.

"Even if we go back to find nothing, it will be better than staying in this ugly room one extra day," said Khadijeh Tamimi, who lives in one of Jordan's 10 sprawling refugee camps. Jordan is home to the large number of refugees in the Arab World.

Ms. Tamimi's neighbour, Mohammad Farran, a farmer and father of six, has been glued to his radio ever since news broke out about the autonomy deal, due to be signed in Washington on Monday.

"I can't work any more from too much thinking about what will happen next," he said inside his shabby, tin-roofed house.

PLO officials have said the accord might allow the return of some 800,000 Palestinians, most of whom were displaced to Jordan when Israel seized the West Bank in the 1967 Middle East war. Israel says the accord does not mention that.

The refugees' excitement about going back contrasts sharply with the lukewarm reactions of those the West Bank needs most — rich entrepreneurs and skilled professionals — who appear to be firmly rooted in Jordan.

They form the core of Jordan's business community though they remain marginalised in parliament and in the government.

Most fear returning to a homeland very much changed since they left years ago.

"Let nationalistic and sen-

timental emotions aside. Jordan is home for me," said dentist Khalil Khader, from Jerusalem.

Jaafar Toukan, one of Jordan's leading architects, who has offices in many Arab Gulf capitals, said he did not rule out opening a branch in the occupied territories if an expected economic and construction boom materialises.

"It will be wonderful to feel I can drive back home and visit my mother and relatives in Nablus whenever I want."

"But at the moment, my business obligations make Amman a more appropriate place for me to live and work."

Most Palestinians, who traditionally have enjoyed a high level of education and entrepreneurial skills, have been a driving force in the urbanisation of the small kingdom.

Unlike other Arab countries, most Palestinians in Jordan have citizenship and enjoy civil and political rights.

But the accord delays discussion about the status of more than three million Palestinian refugees who fled after Israel's creation in 1948. More than a million live in Jordan alone.

"The accord is a trap for us... we will never get the right to choose between returning or getting compensation for property we lost according to U.N. resolutions," said bookshop owner Mohammad Abdulla Qader, 62, from Jaffa, in what is now Israel.

"I am depressed and so are others because we only smell compensation and not of returning to our homeland."

King Hussein has repeatedly insisted we will never force any Palestinians to return if they opted to stay here.

But Amman hopes at least half a million refugees will return to ease demographic, political and economic pressures in a Kingdom where they form a large part of the four million population.

"Let nationalistic and sen-

## Peace accord could cut huge arms trade

**LOS ANGELES** (R) — Peace deals between Israel and its Arab neighbours could knock the bottom out of the largest market for the arms trade, military analysts believe.

And the biggest loser from any sharp reduction in defence spending in the Middle East would probably be the United States, the world's top arms supplier.

The analysts said that the Israel's agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to end their conflict lowered the political temperature in the Middle East it was likely to lead to wider peace accords in the region.

"This is a political earthquake of the first magnitude," said Dr. Richard Dekmijian, professor of political science at the University of Southern California. "If this whole thing works, it'll redraw the map and change the relationships."

He said if these wider accords came into effect all nations in the area except the Gulf states would dramatically cut arms spending.

"Arms spending should decline precipitously over the next five years starting next year," he said.

But analysts said the arms buildup could resume stronger than ever if peace efforts failed.

Peace would take a bite out of U.S. arms exports, but would not deal a death blow because Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and other countries would continue to be important customers, Dekmijian said.

Natalie Goldring, deputy director of the British American Security Information Council in Washington, said the United States had delivered more arms to the Middle East in 1991 than all other suppliers combined and only slightly less in 1992.

U.S. arms transfers to the region peaked in 1991 with the Gulf war. But since then, the U.S. Congress has received \$39 billion in proposals for new arms sales to the area.

Kenneth Watman, a senior researcher at the Rand Corp., a Los Angeles-based think-tank, agreed that arms spending may be on a long-term decline in the Middle East.

"The overall level of arms sales is likely to decline dramatically — in fact, it already has," Mr. Watman said.

With the demilitarisation of borders would come a thawing in attitudes which would allow the seeds of regional arms reduction to take root, he said.

"But if peace fails, then arms will build up beyond current levels," Mr. Watman said. Any future arms escalation would be likely to favour more high technology weapons, which are more cost effective — and deadlier."

In the past, the byproduct of peace agreements has been increased arms transfers," she said, noting a rise in U.S. shipments to Israel and Egypt after the 1979 Camp David accord.

## Opposition group alleges attempt on Saddam's life

**NICOSIA** (AP) — An Iraqi opposition group claimed Sunday that Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein narrowly escaped an assassination attempt last month.

It said the attack occurred Aug. 25 when President Saddam was near his home village of Takrit, 160 kilometres northwest of the capital of Baghdad.

There was no way to independently confirm the report. Also unconfirmed is a report of a failed coup attempt in early August.

The alleged assassination attempt was disclosed in a fax to the Associated Press in Nicosia from the supreme council for the Islamic revolution in Iraq, an Iraqi opposition group based in Iran.

It said that according to sources inside Iraq, some 20 people — including members of President Saddam's own Takrit clan — tried to kill the Iraqi leader while he was in the region of Takrit province.

## Japan determined to play key Mideast role

**WASHINGTON** (AP) — Japan's foreign minister says he flew halfway around the world on short notice to show the new Tokyo government's "determination to play a very important role" in implementing the historic Middle East accord.

Britain blames two alleged Libyan agents, Abdul Basit Ali Mohammad Al Meghrabi and Alim Khalifa Fahim, for the Lockerbie bombing and issued warrants for them in November 1991.

It says they were solely responsible for blowing up the New York-bound Pan Am airliner which exploded over the Scottish market town of Lockerbie in December 1988, killing 270 people.

Colonial Legwell says he will not stand in their way if they wish to surrender voluntarily and prospects of a Scottish trial rose last week after the Sunday Post revealed the men's Libyan lawyer Ibrahim Legwell had a secret 10-day visit to Britain.

Mr. Legwell said his clients were ready to stand trial if they could be assured that it would be fair and if certain conditions, including an end to sanctions, were met.

Mr. Hata talked briefly to reporters after meeting Mr. Christopher at the State Department. Japanese embassy spokesman Seichi Kondo provided other details.

The foreign minister praised the role of the United States "as a designer of peace in the Middle East," Mr. Kondo said. But the Hata-Christopher meeting did not cover specifics of expected contributions to the recharged Middle East peace process from Japan, a major financial supporter of allied efforts in the Gulf war.

ised a \$17.6 billion economic stimulus package reported in Japanese newspapers, he told reporters.

The two countries plan to hold economic talks in Hawaii next week.

Plans for a trans-Pacific Clinton-Hosokawa summit in New York during the U.N. General Assembly are not yet finalised.

"But both Presidents Clinton and our prime minister are looking forward to the meeting," Mr. Hata said.

Mr. Clinton met both Mr. Hosokawa and Mr. Hata in Tokyo during the July summit of industrialised countries. Both were then opposition candidates in the parliamentary election that ended 40 years of rule by the Liberal-Democratic Party and brought in Mr. Hosokawa's coalition government.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Eggs thrown at Israel ambassador in New York

**NEW YORK** (AP) — At least a half dozen Jewish protesters pelted eggs at the Israeli ambassador at a synagogue Sunday and called him a "traitor" to protest the peace agreement between the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Jewish state. Ambassador Itamar Rabinovitch was about to speak to a group at Young Israel of Kew Garden Hills synagogue in the New York City borough of Queens when he was interrupted by the shouting protesters. Some members of the congregation and other members of the militant groups Kahane Chai and Jewish Defence League yelled, "Rabinovitch is a traitor" and "you have the blood of thousands of Jews on your hands." Police removed the demonstrators, but no arrests were made. After a delay of about 10 minutes, Mr. Rabinovitch addressed the crowd.

### Arafat's parents-in-laws' flat vandalised

**PARIS** (AFP) — Two flats belonging to prominent Palestinians were vandalised early Sunday, just hours before an Israeli-Palestinian peace accord was to be signed in Washington, police said. The apartments, both in the Paris suburbs, belonged to Raymonda Tawil, mother-in-law of Palestine Liberation Organisation Chief Yasser Arafat, and Ibrahim Souissi, former Palestinian representative in France. Unknown persons broke in to Ms. Tawil's flat in Courbevoie and smashed it up, without taking anything. Mr. Tawil is currently in Washington. Contacted by telephone by France-Inter Radio, she said the ransacking of the two apartments was an act of intimidation or a threat to Mr. Arafat "related to what is going on."

### Trial of extremist opens in Yemen

**ADEN** (AP) — A Muslim extremist told a court in Yemen on Sunday that his group was amassing arms and preparing for a holy war to spread Islam "from East to West." Sunayn Mossed Al Harthi, 35, who is from Shabwa, a southern Yemeni province, is charged with complicity in the killing of an army officer and two soldiers in May. He spoke at the opening of a trial in the province of Hadramaut, 620 kilometres east of Aden. Mr. Harthi is accused of membership in the so-called Yemen Islamic Jihad (holy war) organisation. Yemen authorities have not publicly confirmed the existence of the group. Membership in the group reportedly includes a number of Yemeni nationals who fought with Afghan rebels against Soviet troops and Kabul's communist leadership in the 1980s. Egypt and Algeria have blamed Afghan war veterans for Muslim extremist activities in their countries.

### Algerian council to meet as new killings reported

**ALGIERS** (AFP) — Algeria's collegiate presidency has announced an impending meeting of its security council as another 20 victims were added to the death toll in the ongoing Islamic fundamentalist guerrilla war with the government. The High State Council said in a statement that its security council would meet "within the next few days" without detailing what would be on the agenda. The meeting will be the council's first since January 1992, when elections were cancelled after a first round of voting won by the now outlawed Islamic Salvation Front. Meanwhile security services said that 13 fundamentalists were killed by government forces Thursday in Oualia Ali near the Islamic stronghold of Lakhdaria, 70 kilometres southeast of Algiers. A fourteenth fundamentalist was critically wounded in the operation, which recovered four automatic weapons, 10 shotguns and a homemade bomb, security forces said. Security forces also announced the killing Saturday of Saad Bakhtoui, a former journalist with the bi-monthly pro-opposition magazine El Mnar.

### Schwarzkopf takes swipe at Arafat, Saddam

**WASHINGTON** (R) — General Norman Schwarzkopf, who led the forces which drove Baghdad out of Kuwait, took swipes on Monday at Yasser Arafat and Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein. On the day that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and Israel sign a peace agreement in Washington, Gen. Schwarzkopf said Mr. Arafat was not the sort of person to buy used car from while President Saddam had become irrelevant in Middle East politics. Saying he had a "health dose of scepticism," about what the peace agreement would achieve, Gen. Schwarzkopf said people should not forget that Mr. Arafat and the PLO backed Iraq in the Gulf war. "He (Arafat) ain't the sort of guy you'd want to buy a used car from," Gen. Schwarzkopf told CBS television in an interview. He said the U.S.-led defeat of Iraq was a key reason which had brought about the Israeli-PLO peace pact. "Since then Saddam has become irrelevant in Arab and Palestinian politics. He lost face; he lost the mother of all battles and proved he was a liar," Gen. Schwarzkopf said.

### Iran calls for lifting of Bosnia sanctions

**NICOSIA** (AP) — Iran's top leadership met Monday with Bosnia's President Alija Izetbegovic in Tehran and denounced the rearming of Muslims in the former Yugoslav republic. The Islamic Republic News Agency said the meeting was attended by President Hashemi Rafsanjani and the nation's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. "The big powers, under the pretext of preventing escalation of the war, have blocked all ways to the Bosnian Muslims," Ayatollah Khamenei was quoted as saying. "Arrangements should be made to enable the Bosnian nation to defend itself with greater strength and power," he said.

### Vatican denies Pope plans Jerusalem trip

**VATICAN CITY** (R) — The Vatican said Monday Pope John Paul wants to make an historic visit to Jerusalem, but denied reports he plans a trip this Christmas. Rumours of a possible visit began after the Pope hailed the Middle East peace accord during his Sunday Angelus message and said his thoughts were focused on Jerusalem. "He wants to go to Jerusalem but it won't be this Christmas," Vatican chief spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls told reporters.

### Accused show military judges signs of torture

**CAIRO** (AP) — Seven accused Muslim extremists on trial in a military court for trying to overthrow the government exhibited Monday bruises and wounds to judges which they said were caused by police torture. The men are part of a group of 66 defendants, 14 of whom are being tried in absentia. The men are accused of belonging to the "Vanguards of Conquest" group, a revival of the Jihad group which assassinated President Anwar Sadat in 1981. The three judges on the panel ordered the seven defendants out of their cages and up to the bench so they could personally check their bruises. Then, the judges entered the torture signs in the court records and referred the militants to forensic doctors. The government has arrested more than 800 alleged members of the "Vanguards of Conquest" group and have divided them into court cases based on where they were arrested. Three cases have already started involving 55, 66 and 33 defendants. The first two are being held at a military barracks outside of Cairo and the third in Alexandria.

### Malaysia mulls ties with Israel

**KUALA LUMPUR** (AFP) — Malaysia may set up diplomatic relations with Israel following the signing of a peace accord between the Jewish state and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said Monday. "If the Israelis have changed their attitude, we need to study this (having diplomatic ties), especially since the Palestinians have recognised Israel," Mr. Mahathir told reporters. Predominantly Muslim Malaysia has been a vocal critic of Israel and has given moral and financial support to the PLO which enjoys full diplomatic status in Kuala Lumpur. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat was here in July to brief Mr. Mahathir on the Middle East peace process.

### Swiss parliamentarians visit Turkey

**ZURICH** (R) — Two Swiss members of parliament have gone to Turkey to try to secure the release of Swiss citizens held hostage by Kurdish rebels, the Swiss foreign ministry said. Ministry spokesman Franz Egli said Angeline Fankaufer and Eugen David flew to Ankara Saturday on a "private mission with a humanitarian character" and did not intend to leave until the hostages were free. The Swiss government has refused to negotiate directly with the kidnappers, members of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) which has been fighting for independence in southeast Turkey for the past nine years. Swiss radio said a five-strong Italian parliamentary delegation also went to Ankara on Saturday.

### Mubarak: Sadat was 20 years ahead of his time

**CAIRO** (AFP) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak paid tribute to his assassinated predecessor Sunday, saying that in signing the Camp David peace treaty with Israel, Anwar Sadat was 20 years ahead of his time. "Most Arab states, particularly the Gulf states, recognised that Sadat was right, but circumstances made them say something else," Mr. Mubarak told a meeting of high-ranking army officers here. Referring to the signing of the Israeli-Palestinian agreement in Washington Monday, Mr. Mubarak said that Camp David treaty — the first such accord between an Arab state and Israel — showed that Sadat was "20 years ahead of his time." The president said he believed an agreement would shortly be signed between Jordan and Israel, and that Israel would also return the Golan Heights to Syria.

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

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His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday reviews the effects on Jordan of the U.N. imposed sanctions on Iraq with former U.S. Ambassador to

Iraq David Newton and Charge d'Affaires in Jordan Douglas Keene (Petra photo)

## Crown Prince reviews effects of U.N. sanctions on Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — The U.N. imposed sanctions on Iraq and their adverse effects on Jordan were at the centre of discussion between His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and a visiting U.N. delegation Monday.

The delegation, who arrived here last week is reviewing the impact of the international sanctions imposed on Iraq following its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait, on Jordan's economy.

The Crown Prince noted at the meeting that Jordan is made to suffer from the sanctions although it is fully committed to U.N. resolutions.

Not only Jordan is suffering as a result of these sanctions, but Turkey as well is facing the consequences, he said.

Referring to the situation in Iraq, Prince Hassan said the sanctions have particularly taken their toll on the Iraqi children.

Reports by UNICEF (the United Nations Children's Fund) reveal that the rising rate of infant mortality in Iraq is caused by a severe shortage of medical supplies and equipment needed by hospitals.

Minister of State for Prime Ministry Affairs Jawad Al Anani and Minister of Finance Sami Gammie were present at the meeting.



Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal Monday deputises for Her Majesty Queen Noor at the opening of the First International

Nursing Conference held at the University of Jordan (Petra photo)

## First international nursing conference addresses value of profession

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan plans to support scientific research programmes that can benefit socio-economic development in Jordan, according to University President Kawar Gharibeh.

The university has therefore sought continued cooperation with the various public and private sectors in the country and abroad in order to cope with development in various scientific fields, Dr. Gharibeh said in an address at the opening of the First International Nursing Conference held in Jordan over the past two decades. Dr. Gharibeh also reviewed the faculty's contribution to the health services by providing the community with qualified and well-trained nurses.

She suggested the formation of an international commission to be

supported by various nations to dedicate its attention to promoting the nursing profession worldwide.

He underlined the importance of involving the nursing sector in planning health programmes in the country.

Wafiq Abdul Rahim, dean of the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Jordan, which organised the conference, outlined the meeting's development of the nursing profession in Jordan over the past two decades. Dr. Abdul Rahim also reviewed the faculty's contribution to the health services by providing the community with qualified and well-trained nurses.

She suggested the formation of an international commission to be

involved in the local community with the necessary related services.

Dr. Sawsan Majali, the conference rapporteur, said the delegates will review 25 research papers and will hold panel discussions, during the three-day conference, which was held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal deputised for Queen Noor at the opening ceremony.

Following the opening session,

the Princess opened an exhibition displaying a variety of equipment and apparatus used in the nursing profession.

## King condoles Innab family

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Monday delegated Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd to attend the funeral of retired Major General Radi Hassan Innab, the first chief of staff of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan delegated the King's advisor Ihsan Shurdoin to convey his condolences to the late Maj. General's family.

Also attending the funeral were Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, several former prime ministers, ministers and senators, the acting chief of staff of the Armed Forces,

senior officers of the Jordanian Armed Forces and the Public Security Department, as well as other officials.

Maj. Gen. Innab died at the age of 98. He became chief of staff of the Jordanian Armed Forces following the Arabisation of the army's leadership in 1956.

He was born in Nablus in 1895 and joined the ranks of the Great Arab Revolt forces in 1921.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

**EXHIBITIONS**

- Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Nouri Al Eawi at Baladna Art Gallery.
- Art exhibition by artists Mohammad Al Ameri and Ghassan Abu Laban at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition by Moustafa Al Ma'mi at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition by Egyptian artist H. Biker at the Raja Art Gallery in Irbid.
- Paintings exhibition by Amor Awwad and

**FILMS**

- Film entitled "Heart of Glass" at the Goethe Institute at 7:30 p.m.

## Elections to be held on schedule — Majali

AMMAN (Petra) — The government is determined to hold the parliamentary elections on schedule on Nov. 8 and will ensure that they are free and fair, Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali said Monday. The government will also do its utmost to make the democratic process a success, the prime minister said at a meeting held in Salt.

Dr. Majali was addressing the chairman and members of the Balqa Governorate's Executive Council in the presence of Interior Minister Salameh Hammadi.

Referring to the on-going peace process the prime minister said Jordan has, since the beginning of the Middle East problem, demanded the achievement of a just, durable and honourable peace that can be acceptable to the future generations of this region.

Jordan has always adopted an honourable stand in support of all the Arab brothers throughout the Kingdom's history, added Dr. Majali.

Stressing that the rule of law will dominate all aspects of life, the prime minister said all members of the Jordanian society are free and equal before the law as they have rights and should shoulder their respective duties.

"We as officials do not consider ourselves as rulers, but rather as servants seeking to serve the

nation and the Jordanian citizens and safeguard public interest," added Dr. Majali.

Reaffirming the government's drive to apply decentralised rule, Dr. Majali said decentralisation, which is to be applied in all governorates, aims to save people's time and expenses.

The government, he added, is keen to involve the largest number of people in discussing various local community problems and decide on future plans for their regions.

"With decentralisation, we hope to shift more powers from the centre in Amman to the governorates, and to enhance the relationship between officials and members of the public," said the prime minister.

Balqa Governor Eid Al Otaibah spoke at the outset of the meeting outlining the executive council's plans and activities, as well as its plans for implementing development projects in the coming years.

Later, at a meeting with delegations representing the southern towns of Ma'an and the Al Jafr, the prime minister promised full government backing for development projects in the two regions to help raise their standard of living of citizens there.

The townpeople of Ma'an, who included the director of the glass factory briefed the prime minister on the various problems they face in their town. They said their immediate needs are social, health, agricultural and water supply services and an infrastructure for developing the

local economy.

The prime minister promised that the government would study these problems and would support the local glass factory.



Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Monday meets with members of the Balqa Governorate Executive Council in Salt (Petra photo)

## Envoy proposes a Jordanian visit to Chile

AMMAN (J.T.) — The undersecretary of the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rodrigo Diaz Alfonso, Monday wound up a two-day official visit to Jordan by proposing that the Kingdom dispatch a delegation to his country to discuss mutual cooperation in trade, industrial and economic fields.

Addressing a press conference shortly before his departure, Mr. Alfonso said Jordanian-Chilean trade has been modest over the past years, and in 1992 the trade exchanges between the two sides did not exceed \$160,000.

The reason for this poor trading relationship, he said, is the lack of information about trade prospects and investments in either country as well as difficulties facing communications and maritime transport between them, added the Chilean official.

"We have submitted a request to the Ministry of Planning in Amman that a Jordanian delegation come to Chile to have direct contact with the businessmen and officials there to pave the ground for more trade," said the official.

He thanked Jordan for supporting his country's initiatives at international forums, especially its call for holding an international conference on world development to be held in Denmark in 1995.

He thanked Jordan for supporting his country's initiatives at international forums, especially its call for holding an international conference on world development to be held in Denmark in 1995.



Visiting Under Secretary of the Chilean Foreign Ministry Rodrigo Diaz Alfonso Monday holds a press conference at the Inter-Continental Hotel at the end of his official visit to Jordan (Petra photo)

## Officials agree on need for more safety measures to protect school children

By Rana Husseini  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Although the Traffic Department has introduced measures to safeguard school children while they are descending from school buses, traffic and school officials believe that more needs to be done to protect young students on their commute to and from school.

Mr. Dawood said that in 1987 the traffic department printed a traffic safety book that was used at schools to educate children. But the publication, he said, is buried under dust in the Ministry of Education storage rooms because the ministry failed to approve the idea.

Some of the Jabal Amman schools recognise the problem, and have tried to correct it.

At Zein Al-Sharaf School last year, a teacher was assigned to help children cross the street.

"Last year, we assigned teachers and students to assist younger students in crossing the street, and we never had any problems," said Abla Dakkak, the school principle.

"We educate students about traffic safety constantly, but I believe that if there was a specific assigned crossing area with flashing lights it would force the children to cross there, and we would not have this problem," she said.

The idea of installing a specific street crossing for children is the Amman Municipality's responsibility, and not the traffic department, explained Mr. Dawood.

"Our job is to maintain traffic order on the streets and not to furnish streets with crossings or lights, which is the Municipality's job," he said.

"This problem is not the driver's responsibility only," said Mr. Dawood. "It is a problem that concerns the pedestrians and children who cross the street randomly instead of crossing it where they are supposed to."

He also said that it is possible for the department to place a traffic official beside each school, and that the department expects

## Sudan sends message to King

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received Brigadier General Abdul Rahim Mohammad Hussein, the Sudanese minister of interior, and handed him a letter to Sudanese President Omar Hassan Al Bashir.

During the meeting, they discussed issues of common concern and the Arab status in general.

Also under discussion were bilateral relations between the two countries and ways of enhancing them as well as the Middle East peace process in light of recent developments.

Attending the meeting were Chief of the Royal Court Khaled Al Karaki, Mohammad Saqqaf, advisor to His Royal Highness Salameh Hammad, minister of interior,

"In an arrival statement, the Sudanese minister said he would hold talks with Interior Minister Salameh Hammad on police work and ways of benefiting from Jordan's experience in this field including training police officers at the Police Academy.

In reply to a question about the situation in southern Sudan, the minister said the Sudanese armed

forces were in control of the situation. In their latest drive, the armed forces liberated the majority of towns from the separatist movement and it will not be long before the entire south will be liberated, he said.

Referring to Sudan's relations with Egypt, Mr. Hussein said that they are returning to normal now that the media campaigns have been halted and the two sides have expressed readiness to pursue a dialogue over the future of Halayeb.

The Egyptian foreign minister is expected to visit Sudan soon to discuss the situation, Mr. Hussein added.

The Sudanese minister is accompanied by an official delegation which includes the director general of the Sudanese police force.

## Arabic daily reports on Cabinet's authorities

AMMAN (Petra) — Al Dustour daily recently reported on what it called the first published set of regulations on the authorities of the Council of Ministers in the Kingdom.

According to the regulations, the council exercises all the authorities vested in it as provided for in the Jordanian Constitution and the various Jordanian laws.

It said that a Cabinet meeting would take place if at least two-thirds of the ministers were present, including the Prime Minister or a deputy, acting in the absence of the premier.

The council of ministers passes decisions by a majority of votes of those attending the session; and in the event the votes were equal the prime minister's vote would tip the balance.

According to the regulations, the council of ministers also has the authority to empower any of the ministers to implement regulations passed by either the council of ministers or one of its ministerial committees.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Civil servants reminded of ban on writing in newspapers

AMMAN (Petra) — Government employees are banned from writing for newspapers whether under their own name or under a pseudonym, according to Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali. He said in a communiqué issued Monday that some civil servants have been writing for newspapers without first obtaining a permit from the Council of Ministers in accordance with Article 44 of the Civil Service Commission Law of 1988. He said no employee is allowed to write for newspapers, and violators will be prosecuted.

#### PSD honours young artist

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) Monday honoured a student in a

local school for his drawings that are being used as educational aids in schools to spread traffic safety awareness. PSD Assistant Director Brigadier Muayad Mubasit presented the student, Tawfiq Abu Huda, with a token gift and a merit certificate and thanked him for his contribution.

#### Social centre to hold herbal workshop

IRBID (Petra) — The Princess Basma Social Community Centre which is operated by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF) Wednesday will organise a workshop on planting herbs such as thyme, sage and camomile. The QAF director here said that the workshop was primarily aimed at helping women plant useful herbs used in food and medicine.

#### Firm to hold seminar on pest control

AMMAN (Petra) — A local firm Wednesday will organise an agricultural seminar in Amman dealing with agricultural pests. The seminar, which will be organised in cooperation with Jordanian Agricultural Engineers, will deal with methods adopted in combating pests.



# Middle East Peace Process

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1993 5

## 5 anti-accord protesters shot dead in Lebanon

Combined agency dispatches

BEIRUT — Lebanese soldiers shot dead five supporters of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah and wounded 30 others who defied a government ban and went ahead with a rally against the Israeli-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace deal on Monday, witnesses said.

A security official put the toll at four dead and 16 wounded.

Hezbollah official Sheikh Hassan Hamadeh said the troops opened fire to disperse the protesters as they headed to a demonstration at a cemetery in the southern suburbs of Beirut where Hezbollah had called a rally against "Yasser Arafat's treason."

The casualties were taken to the nearby hospital of Al Rassul Al Aazam, said Sheikh Hamadeh.

The security official said troops opened fire to disperse rowdy protesters on the road to Beirut international airport.

After the clash, the pavements were splattered with blood and spent cartridges as well as rocks used by demonstrators against troops.

Correspondents at the scene saw one Lebanese man killed and 15 wounded by shooting. Soldiers also fired two rocket-propelled grenades into the air to disperse the marchers.

Soldiers aboard armoured troop carriers also fired heavy calibre anti-aircraft guns in the air to end the demonstration.

Bullets whizzed along the street as journalists and marchers ran or hid in shops and behind cars. Soldiers were clearly seen aiming and firing at demonstrators rather than over their heads.

Some bearded Hezbollah militants shouted "Allahu Akbar (God is Great)" during the shooting and ran towards the troops.

But most of the unarmed demonstrators just ran for cover.

"These are Israelis. These are traitors. Where are our men?" a man shouted at the troops. The crowd later reassembled and sat down in the street.

"The army of (the Prophet) Mohammad is coming back. Watch out you Jews," chanted an estimated 500 demonstrators including women who were facing about 100 soldiers on armoured troop carriers as organizers of the march held talks with officers.

A Lebanese army officer then approached the crowd and told demonstrators to calm down. He said his men would protect the militants and escort them into the Shi'ite Muslim southern suburbs.

The Interior Ministry banned all demonstrations planned by the Hezbollah and Palestinian groups opposed to the Israeli-PLO autonomy accord.

A Hezbollah deputy, Hassan Berjawi, told AFP that the soldiers themselves were not to blame. "We will only punish those who gave the orders," he said.

Supporters and opponents of the peace deal fought a gunbattle earlier Monday in the Palestinian refugee camp of Rashidiyyeh in South Lebanon, leaving two wounded, Palestinian officials said.

In Damascus, thousands of Palestinians staging a "day of rage" to protest the PLO-Israel peace accord filled the alleys of the capital.

Schoolchildren, housewives and old and young women carried black flags as a sign of mourning and banners with such slogans as

"No to Arafat and his treacherous group."

Some chanted: "Arafat, American spy who sold Al Aqsa in return for dollars."

Demonstrators burned Israeli flags emblazoned with photos of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat at their centre.

Ahmed Jibril, a Palestinian leader who has said Mr. Arafat will suffer the same fate as assassinated Egyptian President Anwar Sadat, addressed thousands of Palestinians in the city's Yarmouk camp.

"Revolution will continue until victory is achieved," Mr. Jibril told the crowd, vowing to continue the "armed struggle" against Israel that Mr. Arafat has renounced.

Teens Damascus-based Palestinian factions, including Mr. Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, have denounced the peace accord.

In Tunis, the leader of the Damascus-based Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) told the Associated Press he would try to destroy the peace accord.

Nayef Hawatmeh said the pact "will turn the Palestinians into policemen to protect the Israeli settlers and will not give them back any of their legitimate rights."

Mr. Hawatmeh said the PLO-Israel agreement was destined to fail because it gave Mr. Arafat the same role in the Gaza Strip as that played by General Antoine Lahad in South Lebanon.

Gen. Lahad runs the South Lebanon Army, the Israeli-backed militia which mans Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" in South Lebanon.

"The Israeli will stay in Gaza so people will continue to rebel against them. Arafat will become like Lahad and Gaza will be a 'security zone' for Israel," Mr. Hawatmeh predicted.

Asked what DFPL members would do if a Palestinian police force in Gaza stood in their way, he said: "We will break the arms of this police force; which brings out its weapons against the people of the intifada."

Mr. Hawatmeh said all forms of resistance to Israeli occupation would be legitimate until Israel withdrew from all of the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem and allowed Palestinians to decide their own future.

Asked how he felt on the day of the signing in Washington he said: "Very sad, because we have struggled for our rights for 25 years and this agreement does not give us the bare minimum.

"But the struggle will continue."

In Cairo, the group that assassinated President Anwar Sadat after he made peace with Israel condemned the PLO-Israeli plan as a "blatant surrender of Islamic historical rights."

"The Egyptian Islamic Jihad organization announces its absolute rejection of the Gaza-Jericho agreement," the group said in a statement telefaxed to a Western news agency in Cairo.

It said the pact is "treason to the hopes of the Palestinian people and a waste of their legitimate rights."

"We warn the regimes that have submitted to American domination... of the consequences this blantist surrender of Islamic historical rights."

The statement was signed by "Vanguards of Conquest."

### CENTRO CULTURAL ESPAÑOL

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## Mixed Jordanian reactions

(Continued from page 1)

now is a victory. History taught us that an occupied land cannot be retrieved without its government having a land and a nation. Each time an Arab country gets upset with Arafat or the PLO they kick them out, so they need a land and an address to start establishing something, be it peace or war."

Nabilah Ahmad, a housewife, said: "They (the Palestinians) are free to do what they want because they understand their situation better than all of us."

Nael Alaezzi, the owner of a mechanic workshop, said he thought what he saw on TV told the crowd, vowing to continue the "armed struggle" against Israel that Mr. Arafat has renounced.

Mr. Alaezzi, a Jordanian

of Circassian origin, said that he did trust that yesterday's signing ceremony would lead to peace. The signing, he said, was a "surrender and defeat that will lead nowhere."

However, Mr. Alaezzi said he wanted to see real peace. "There is nothing sweeter than peace," he said.

A young unemployed man from Iqaleh, who did not wish to be named said, he was uninterested in yesterday's ceremony. Yet he said he hoped "by God's grace it would lead to real peace."

A grandmother from Karak said she was pleased to see the signing in the news. "I was pleased. I only hope that the Arabs would unite and support the Palestinians," Hind Rawashdeh said when contacted by telephone.

## Palestinians demonstrate

(Continued from page 1)

could not, then I also couldn't. So why should we fight?"

Such a rationale appeared to prevail among many of the camp's residents despite the noisy demonstration and general strike.

But committed political activists said they were determined to make sure their voices were heard if not listened to.

"Arafat is a traitor. He has sold the Palestinian people and their rights to the Israelis," Said Qasem Harb, a 22-year-old electrician who said he supported the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas.

Mr. Harb said he stayed away from work for the day and was going to around trying to persuade others to join the strike.

Mohammad Ambar, 42, a cloth-store salesman, said he supported the autonomy deal.

"We have been fighting for so many years but did not get anything," he said. "At least now we could get something in our hands. I am sure Abu Ammar (Arafat's nom de guerre) has things up his sleeve to go further and create an independent Palestinian state."

Faqa, an 88-year-old woman who fled from Beersheba in 1948 and the West Bank in 1967, was not sure whether Mr. Arafat, "or for anyone in the Palestinian leadership for that matter, could convince the Jews."

"For 40 years I lived among Jews, and I know their mentality," said Faqa. "They don't give anything to anyone, they only take."

Most of shops at Beqaa were reopened in the afternoon, residents reported. People

crowded around television sets to watch the signing of the agreement as the White House.

In Amman about 100 men and women wearing black demonstrated outside the PLO mission, the embassy of the State of Palestine, to protest the autonomy accord.

"No to capitulation, yes to machineguns," shouted the crowd as the mission staff watched impassively from the balconies and windows of the building.

The red carpet that Arafat walked yesterday (as he boarded a flight to Washington from Tunis) was soaked with the blood of our martyrs," said a middle-aged woman who would identify herself only as a resident of the Hitten camp northeast of Amman.

It is the duty of every Palestinian to wreck the sellout of the Palestinian cause," she said. "We have given the lives of our fathers, our sons and husbands to the cause of a free Palestine, not an autonomous district in the land of Palestine."

"We want a Palestine from the River (Jordan) to the (Mediterranean) Sea," chanted the protesters.

It was believed that many of the demonstrators were affiliated with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) led by Ahmad Jibril, who has threatened to assassinate Mr. Arafat for entering the agreement with the Israelis.

Security around the mission was boosted ahead of Monday's events. At one point some of the protesters tried to rush the gate, but were pushed back by policemen. No injuries or arrests were reported.

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## Israel, PLO sign accord

(Continued from page 1)

salaam, peace."

Mr. Peres said: "We are sincere. We mean business... let us all turn from bullets to ballots, from guns to shovels."

"May there be no more victims on either side," he said.

Mr. Peres thanked all those who have made this day possible."

"What we are doing today is more than signing an agreement. It is a revolution: yesterday a dream, today a commitment," he said.

"We have come to secure their lives and secure the soul and the peaceful memories of the past, to hope and pray for peace."

"Let us bid, once and for all, farewell to war," he said.

Mr. Abbas said the accord reflects the PLO's decision "to turn a new page in its relations with Israel."

"We have come to this point because we believe that peaceful coexistence and cooperation are the only means of reaching an understanding," Mr. Abbas said.

"I hope that this meeting in Washington will prove to be the onset of a positive and constructive change that will serve the interests of the Palestinian and Israeli peoples," he said in Arabic through a translator.

"We know that this is the beginning of a journey surrounded by numerous dangers and numerous difficulties," he said, adding however that, the PLO is ready to "overcome everything that stands in the way of the cause for peace."

"The soldiers who have returned from the battle stained with blood... we who have fought against you, the Palestinians, we say to you today in a loud and clear voice: 'enough of blood and tears enough,'" said Mr. Harb when his turn came to speak from the white, raised stage.

Mr. Peres and Mr. Abbas signed the declaration of principles at 11:43 a.m. (1543 GMT) at ceremonies, by turns festive and solemn.

Then time seemed to stop as Mr. Rabin, 71, and Mr. Arafat

standing on either side of President Clinton — squinted at each other across a distance of a few feet and 45 years of personal hostility.

It is only ironic in a time when the Middle East peace process seems to be on track... there are other forces that threaten security in the region, he said, referring to fighting on the fringes of what was the Soviet Union.

The agreement was also initial-

led by Mr. Christopher and Mr. Kozyrev as co-sponsors of the Middle East peace talks.

Mr. Christopher said "millions of people have dreamed of this moment for this very region."

"The Israelis and the Palestinians have taken a dramatic step toward a just, lasting and comprehensive peace that can lift the lives of the people of the Middle East," he said.

Mr. Clinton, after the signing of the accord, called the agreement "a victory for peace" and "the dawn of a new era."

Later Monday, Mr. Clinton met briefly at the White House with Mr. Arafat and urged the PLO chairman to take advantage of momentum created by the autonomy pact, a senior administration official said.

"The president made a point... that it was absolutely essential to move quickly now, to seize the moment and to take advantage of the momentum created by this, to start getting things moving on the ground," the official said.

Mr. Clinton "made the point strongly to Mr. Arafat, who agreed," said Martin Indyk, Mr. Clinton's adviser on Mideast affairs.

Mr. Christopher was the only other person in attendance at the unscheduled five- to ten-minute meeting.

Moments after the signing Mr. Arafat told Egyptian television in an effort to appease critics who say he gave up too much: "the Palestinian flag will rise over Jerusalem's walls, minarets and churches."

Earlier Mr. Rabin was asked about another Arafat prediction that Jerusalem would be the capital of a Palestinian state. "He can forget about it," Mr. Rabin answered gruffly.

At a news conference after the signing, Mr. Rabin stressed that Israeli armed forces would retain control over all Israeli settlements in the land being turned over to the PLO, as well as "responsibilities for Israelis wherever they move."

"The real test will be to what extent both sides will keep their agreements," he said.

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# 6 Economy

## Bank of Japan guiding rates lower amid more signs of bad economy

TOKYO (AFP) — Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Monday the central bank was guiding short-term rates lower while official and private polls showed more signs of Japan's economic slump.

Mr. Mieno said the bank was not considering a cut in the official discount rate from the current level of 2.5 per cent, but it had been guiding short-term rates lower on the money market since mid-August.

He said the move had the same economic stimulus effect as a reduction in the central bank's base rate on lending to commercial banks.

"The policy of easier credit is effectively bearing fruit," he told a regular press conference. Mr. Mieno also admitted a downside risk to the economy was growing amid sluggish capital and consumer spending while business and political leaders were calling for a further easing of credit to boost Japan's flagging economy.

The Japanese government re-

portedly plans to unveil an emergency economic package worth five trillion yen (\$48 billion) this week in addition to deregulation measures to be announced this month.

The reported package, which follows 13.2 trillion yen package approved in April, will include further public investment, promotion of housing investment and more lending to small and medium-sized companies.

According to a survey released by the finance ministry, pre-tax profits in all industries in the three months ended June 30 declined 5.6 per cent from a year earlier, representing a record 12th straight year-to-year fall.

But the margin was smaller than the 14 per cent decline in the January-to-March quarter and the 39.4 per cent plunge in October-December last year, the ministry said.

In the fiscal year 1992 to March 31, pre-tax profits of all industries declined 22.6 per cent from the previous year for the third straight annual setback.

fiscal, monetary and trade policies for creating an underground economy and income inequalities.

He praised far-reaching economic reforms launched in 1991 to deregulate the financial system and make the private sector the main engine of growth, but said Pakistan still had far to go.

On fiscal policy, he attacked landlords, the service sector, retailers and small industry for creating pressure groups that used exemptions, concessions, holidays, privileges and loopholes to avoid the tax net.

"As a result the tax base of the economy is very narrow," he pointed out.

## Pakistan central bank governor attacks rich

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan's central bank governor Sunday issued a stinging attack on what he called the rich privileged classes whose tax dodging and loan defaults were making the poor poorer and shattering the economy.

"It is rather ironic that a large number of economic policy distortions that exist in the economy have been retained, and even intensified, at the instance of various interest groups in the private sector itself," State Bank of Pakistan Governor Mohammad Yaqub told the Islamabad Stock Exchange.

He blamed distortions in the

newspaper survey, meanwhile, showed that planned capital spending by major Japanese companies for the current fiscal year has fallen 8.8 per cent from the previous year.

The Nihon Keizai Shimbun said the survey on 1,906 companies also found a double-digit decline among manufacturers for the second straight year and the first decline in nine years for non-manufacturers.

In a separate survey, the Kyodo News Agency said most Japanese businessmen believed a recent appreciation of the yen had helped prolong economic troubles.

Only 17 of the 100 executives at blue-chip companies said the economy would bottom out, with in this year, a sharp fall from the previous Kyodo survey in April, which found that most of them expected an upturn this year.

In the latest survey, half of the businessmen predicted the economy would pick up in the first half of 1994 and 10 per cent feared the recovery would come only in the second half of 1994.

The businessmen called for an income tax reduction and deregulation to breathe fresh air into the economy, rather than such traditional measures as an official discount rate cut and additional public works expenditures.

International Trade and Industry Minister Hiroshi Kumagai told business leaders, including Federation of Employers Association President Takeshi Nagano, that the government would study the possibility of an income tax cut "from every possible aspect."

"We won't be dodging the question," he said.

In the Nihon Keizai Shimbun survey, capital spending for fiscal 1993 was expected to be 20.55 trillion yen (\$194 billion), down 9.9 per cent from their original estimates.

It follows a nine per cent decline last year and is the first time since fiscal 1973 when the daily began its capital spending survey that corporate capital spending have fallen for two years in a row.

Distortions in monetary policy, such as segmentation of the credit market, multiplicity of the rate structure and outside interference were making the cost of money exorbitant, said Mr. Yaqub, who took over as central bank governor last month.

Government borrowing had been excessive while credit to the private sector was less than adequate, he charged.

"The worst are the defaulters, most of whom are rich and influential, and they are being financed through taxation of the poor in the form of negative return to their savings in real terms," he concluded.

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China had approved more than 300 Taiwan-funded investment projects in Peking in the first half of 1993, about the same as in all of 1992, the newspaper said.

The average size of the projects was increasing and there was a trend toward investment in computers, fine chemicals and digitally-controlled machine tools.

One of the largest Taiwan projects in the capital is the Peking around-the-world golf club, with 18 holes, due to open in 1995, with a total investment of \$70 million, it added.

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# World News

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1993

## Serbs bombard Croatian town

ZAGREB (Agencies) — Rebel Serbs in Croatia bombarded the town of Karlovac Monday, and Serb-Croat fighting flared elsewhere in the republic, U.N. officials reported.

Eighteen mortar rounds and eight rockets fell on Karlovac, some 50 kilometres (30 miles) southwest of Zagreb, in the morning attack, said Simo Vaatainen, a spokesman for U.N. peacekeepers.

Croatian TV reported several casualties but did not have details.

Earlier in the day, the Serbs threatened "massive retaliation" if the Croatian army does not withdraw from two villages captured last week in a move that triggered the worst Serb-Croat clashes in eight months.

The Croatian Serb army said in a statement that the Croatian army must withdraw from the villages of Cirkuk and Divosevo, near Gospic on the fringes of Serb-held Croatia.

"Otherwise, they will face massive retaliation against military targets throughout Croatia," using weapons not seen before, said the statement, carried by Belgrade-based Tanjug News Agency.

Mr. Vaatainen said there was also fighting early Monday around Medak, some 25 kilometres (15 miles) south of Gospic, and in Crniš.

The Croatian government-run news agency Hina reported that Serb forces fired 20 artillery rounds on Samja, a frontier town located some 70 kilometres (45 miles) southeast of Zagreb. There was no immediate con-

fimation from the United Nations.

Over the weekend, Serb rockets smashed into Zagreb suburbs, signaling the Serbs' ability to carry war to the doorstep of the Croatian capital. No one was killed in Zagreb, but at least eight people died in nearby Karlovac during weekend shelling.

The two sides fought a bitter six-month war in 1991, ended by a shaky truce patrolled by some 14,000 U.N. peacekeepers.

On Sunday, the Croatian Serb army based in Knin, Croatia, listed more than 50 "military targets" it said could come under fire. It encompassed seven targets in Zagreb, including the main airport, home to a U.S. military field hospital staffed by about 300 Americans.

Rebel Serbs still hold about one-third of Croatia, which they occupied with the help of the Yugoslav federal army in the 1991 war.

Croatian officials are impatient over the United Nations' failure to enforce peace plan under which they expected to regain control of Croatian territory held by Serbs.

In neighbouring Bosnia, meanwhile, Croats and Muslims clashed around the fiercely contested town of Mostar, which Croats envision as the capital of their Bosnian mini-state. Shelling and sniping are killing and wounding several people each day, said Lt. Bill Aikman, a spokesman for U.N. peacekeepers in Sarajevo.

"The only good news is that we're getting some casualties, but... and convoys in," he added.

Some 50,000 Muslims are trap-

ped in eastern Mostar, desperate only begging any outside visitors for food.

In the Sarajevo area and most other regions "the ceasefire is basically holding" said Col. Aikman. "But that does not preclude a low level of fighting."

Croat and Muslim-led Bosnian government forces also clashed overnight near Gornji Vakuf, which is close to a strategic ridge vital to both sides if they want to control central Bosnia.

Croat forces were blocking five military convoys in central Bosnia, with the United Nations refusing them the inspections they demand, Col. Aikman said.

Aid convoys are also blocked by the central Bosnian fighting, posing problems in Jablanica, some 55 kilometres southwest of Sarajevo, where 11,000 Muslim refugees have arrived in past weeks.

Bosnia's President Alija Izetbegovic, a Muslim, is to meet Croatian President Franjo Tudjman for talks in Geneva Tuesday.

It was not clear if they would solve a dispute over territory that led to the sudden collapse of peace talks on Sept. 1.

Mr. Izetbegovic seeks the Croatian Adriatic port of Neum as the outlet for a landlocked, Muslim-dominated mini-state that would emerge from Bosnia's partition between Muslims, Croats and Serbs. Mr. Tudjman refused, because that would cut the southern Adriatic coast, including Dubrovnik, off from the rest of Croatia.

Meanwhile, NATO has stepped into a minefield of political and military problems with its

latest plans to deploy some 50,000 troops to keep the peace in Bosnia.

Diplomats said the project was at an early stage but that there were already differences between Washington and its allies over how any force would be commanded and concerns within NATO's military that not enough troops will be available.

U.S. Defense Secretary Les Aspin said Sunday that NATO could send up to 50,000 peacekeeping troops to Bosnia, half of them from the U.S. Armed Forces, but only if a peace agreement is reached between the warring Muslims, Serbs and Croats.

Such an agreement has so far proved elusive and NATO diplomats say that even if peace does break out, the 16-nation alliance will have serious problems in enforcing any agreement.

"Not only is there a general desire of what we could be getting ourselves into, but there are political differences to be resolved," said one diplomat, who asked not to be identified.

The United States, worried that any operation in Bosnia could bring more trouble of the kind peacekeepers have faced in Somalia, is insisting that NATO has a much greater degree of control over the operation than some other allies would like.

While all agree that any new peace mission in Bosnia would need initial approval from the United Nations, Washington wants NATO's U.S.-led military command to take over the operation more or less completely after that.

The only good news is that we're getting some casualties, but... and convoys in," he added.

Some 50,000 Muslims are trap-

## Actor Raymond Burr dies of cancer

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Raymond Burr, the portly, gravel-voiced actor who solved countless crimes as television attorney Perry Mason, died Sunday night at his California ranch. He was 76.

He died in his sleep after a three-year battle against cancer, friends said.

Burr created the Perry Mason character for a television series which ran from 1957 to 1966 and then again in more than two dozen television movies after 1985.

The Canadian-born actor also had a hit with the television series *Ironside* from 1967 to 1975, as a wheelchair-bound detective paralysed from the waist down.

His resonant voice and commanding personality made Perry Mason, a character from Erie Stanley Gardner detective novels, into perhaps the best-loved attorney on television, unmasking villains in a series of gripping courtroom dramas.

Burr, who was born in New Westminster, British Columbia, also appeared in more than 90 feature films, including *A Place In The Sun*, *Affair In Havana* and Alfred Hitchcock's *Rear Window*. In the early years, he frequently appeared on radio and on the stage.

In his early film career, Burr often played the villain, a "smooth heavy," only gradually to be the hero when he won the coveted role of Perry Mason.

Burr had been twice-widowed and once divorced. His third wife, Laura Morgan, died of cancer in 1955. His only son, Michael, died of leukaemia aged 10 in 1953.

He had a colon operation and then a kidney removed in February this year.

Charles Macaulay, a fellow actor who knew Burr for 30 years, said he died of liver cancer at his ranch near Geyerville, California.

Macaulay said Burr died peacefully, with his doctor in attendance, at the ranch where the actor had grown orchids and grapes and raised sheep.

"He slipped away in his sleep," Macaulay told Reuters, adding that Burr had been in great pain and was being given a pain-killer.

Burr, gray-haired and bearded in later roles, was synonymous with television's Perry Mason, a wily defense attorney who always solved his cases, often representing the underdog and always seeking out the truth.

Macaulay said he doubted any-



Portraying Perry Mason in the long-running TV series of the same name, actor Raymond Burr (left) poses with actress Barbara Hale, who played the role of Mason's secretary Delta Street in this undated file photograph (AFP photo).

one else could fill Burr's shoes as Perry Mason. "He's so indelibly imprinted in the American consciousness as Perry Mason," he said.

He fell ill again during the filming in Denver last June of the latest movie in the Perry Mason series, *The Case Of The Killer Kiss*.

Doctors found that cancer had spread from the liver and throughout his body, Macaulay said. About six weeks ago, doctors told Burr that the cancer was inoperable, he said.

## Indian police search Punjab for Delhi car bomb culprits, arrest 150 people

NEW DELHI (AP) — Police arrested about 150 people in Punjab state Monday while searching for guerrillas who planted a car bomb that killed eight people in central New Delhi.

Three terrorist groups in Punjab, a state bordering the capital, have said they planted the bomb that exploded Saturday outside the youth wing of the governing Congress Party.

The attack, which occurred near parliament, was apparently aimed at the president of the Youth Congress, Maninder Singh Bitta, who has been targeted by Sikh extremists from Punjab twice before. Mr. Bitta still walks on crutches because a terrorist bombing last year destroyed one of his ankles.

India's police and soldiers have defeated many guerrilla groups in Punjab, but they are still seeking some of their leaders and skirmishing nearly every day with terrorists. At least 17,000 people have been killed during the 10-year-old insurgency.

The groups are among a dozen that have been fighting in Punjab for an independent state of Khalistan for Sikhs, who form two per cent of 880 million people in predominantly Hindu India.

If Sikh guerrillas managed to

sneak the explosives into the city that went off Saturday, their move could challenge claims by the government that the insurgency has nearly ended.

The Khalistan Liberation Force, the Khalistan Commando Force, and the Bhindranwale Tiger Force of Khalistan — terrorist groups that Punjab police had claimed to have wiped out — took responsibility for Saturday's bombing, newspapers said Monday.

The groups are among a dozen that have been fighting in Punjab for an independent state of Khalistan for Sikhs, who form two per cent of 880 million people in predominantly Hindu India.

They are the best guarantor of human rights, and their surest champion," he said. "Through the actions of states, the concept of human rights has acquired real meaning.

"But, when states prove unworthy of their sovereign responsibilities, when they violate the fundamental principles laid down in the charter of the U.N., when — far from being protectors of individuals — they become tormentors, the international community must take action."

MANILA (AP) — Don't bother calling the district police headquarters in Olongapo City, advertised as the window to Philippine economic revival. The line was cut when the cops failed to pay the bill. Col. Josefino Faron said the lines to the headquarters of the Metropolitan District Command of the Philippine National Police were cut by the state telephone company "because they didn't pay their bill," which amounted to 200,000 pesos (\$7,100). Col. Faron, now assigned to a subordinate command, said commanders suspected some of the policemen may have run up the bill by making personal calls abroad. Olongapo, roughly 40 kilometres (25 miles) northwest of Manila, is the home of the former U.S. Subic Bay Naval Base.

Broadway musicians talk past contract deadline

NEW YORK (R) — Broadway musicians put off a strike for at least five days Sunday evening, deciding to keep talking with producers on a new contract, a union spokeswoman said. The contract was due to expire at midnight Sunday and Musicians' Union members have overwhelmingly authorised a strike, but no strike deadline has been set, said union spokeswoman Judy Smith.

The organization said that as a symbol of the unity of the country, the king should be independent and above all political matters but they feared that the roles presented outlined for the king could compromise that position.

"We see these positions as having power," Yossi Hut Khemacharo, an advisor to Poulen Khmer, told reporters.

The organization said that as a symbol of the unity of the country,

the king should be independent and above all political matters but they feared that the roles presented outlined for the king could compromise that position.

"If the country gets into difficulties how can Prince Sihanouk be independent, this is a concern," Iv Borin said.

## Norway's Labour tipped to survive election

OSLO (R) — Norwegians voted Monday in an election likely to return the ruling Labour Party to power despite high unemployment and surging opposition to government plans to join the European Community (EC).

Two opinion polls Monday gave the Labour Party of Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland its highest rating this year, at above 37 per cent, and showed that a challenge from the main opposition Conservative Party was fading fast.

This is said for the Conservatives but it can be even sadder for the country" if the polls are right, said Conservative leader Kaci Kullmann Five, who favours more free enterprise for Norway and tax cuts.

Voting by Norway's 3.3 million registered voters began under grey skies in south Norway but with brighter weather up to the Arctic north. Most polling stations were open from 9 a.m. (0700 GMT) to 9 p.m. (1900).

Recent polls show Norway will swing to Labour and small leftist parties, as opposed to a rightwards trend in many European nations since the end of the cold war. Labour is helped by signs of economic recovery in Norway.

Monday's two polls, in the dailies *Verdens Gang* and *Arbeiderbladet*, gave Labour 37.6 per cent and 38.8 per cent respectively, up from 34.3 per cent at the last election in 1989.

"Our anger and outrage at such tactics must not be allowed to

diminish," he said in a message to 500 parliamentarians from 100 countries.

"I call upon the international community to take action. Those responsible must not be allowed to go unpunished."

His message was delivered to the inaugural ceremony of the conference by former U.S. diplomat Joseph Verner Reed, now a special representative of the U.N. secretary general.

The speech also warned the U.N. would play a more interventionist role to stop governments abusing the human rights of their

citizens.

"The state is the best guarantor of human rights, and their surest champion," he said. "Through the actions of states, the concept of human rights has acquired real meaning.

"But, when states prove unworthy of their sovereign responsibilities, when they violate the fundamental principles laid down in the charter of the U.N., when — far from being protectors of individuals — they become tormentors, the international community must take action."

ATHENS (AP) — Mikhail Gorbachev, the last president of the former Soviet Union, arrived Monday for a five-day visit to meet with Greek political leaders, give a major address and receive an honorary degree. Former German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, who holds an honorary degree from the Pantios School of Political Science, will bestow the doctorate degree upon Mr. Gorbachev. Mr. Gorbachev went straight from his airport arrival to a press conference at the Constantine Karamanlis International Airport.

Mr. Gorbachev is scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou Tuesday but will not meet with Greek Communist Party (KKE) Secretary General Aleka Papariga.

Gorbachev arrives in Athens

PHNOM PENH (Agencies) — The head of Cambodia's 18-month U.N. peacekeeping operation, Yasushi Akashi, Monday declared his mission a qualified success but added that democracy was still a long way off.

"I don't think it has been an unqualified success," said Mr. Akashi. "Cambodia has taken a giant step towards democracy but it is still a long way off.

Demobilising all warring factions, establishing standards of human rights as well as supervising and controlling the five areas of governance.

When the radical Khmer Rouge faction steadfastly refused to allow U.N. peacekeepers into their zones of control and refused to disarm, Mr. Akashi said he could not force them.

"I had neither the mandate, nor the equipment, nor the kind of troops which would have incurred 300 lives," he said, reprimanding the questioner as a follower of French Brigadier General Michel Loridon who was removed as deputy force commander one year ago after advocating a tougher line.

Gen. Loridon had said he could conquer the Khmer Rouge and forcibly disarm them with a loss of 200 lives.

"Losing 200 people in hostile

action is more sacrifice than we can bear," Mr. Akashi said.

"Mind you, we did not have the mandate to march into any hostile territory."

Mr. Akashi said he remained

convinced that applying economic sanctions was the best way to deal with the situation.

"I am an addict of boxing, and I would say we may not have had a knockout punch, but we persistently continued body blows

(and) by the 10th round our

adversary was completely ex-

hausted," he said.

The mission however also had

some shortcomings and was not

able to adequately carry out all its

tasks, including disarming and

recruitment should be ap-

plied.

The U.N. peacekeepers of the future need to be trained to understand local culture, he said.

# Sports

## Chinese women shatter athletics records

PEKING (AFP) — Wang Junxia broke her fourth world record in an amazing week for Chinese athletics when she took possession of the 3,000 metres standard Monday.

Her time of 8min 6.13sec at the National Games was an incredible six seconds faster than the mark she set 24 hours earlier when she became the first woman to hold both the 3,000m and 10,000m records.

Qu Yumei, who led a Chinese clean-sweep of the 3,000m at last month's World Championships in Stuttgart, also bettered Sunday's time by one hundredth of a second.

Five Chinese women had broken the old record in Sunday's heats, with Wang fastest in 8:12.19.

That was an astonishing 10sec better than the 8:22.62 Russia's Tatjana Kazankina ran in 1984.

The 20-year-old Wang, who knocked 42sec off Norwegian Ingrid Kristiansen's seven-year-old 10,000m record last week, has now clipped 16sec off the record for the 3,000m — an unheard-of progression for world records.

Her 10,000m record was the equivalent of running two 5,000m of 14min 45sec — a time which only Kristiansen (14:37.33) and South Africa's Elana Meyer (14:44.15) have managed.

Wang, who says she runs the equivalent of a marathon a day in training, won the 10,000m at Stuttgart and has also run the fastest women's marathon this year.

Qu, who won a bronze medal at 1,500m in last year's Barcelona Olympics, broke the world record for that distance Saturday.

Qu's time of 3:50.46 improved by two seconds the record



Wang Junxia (No. 13) is followed by Qu Yumei in the women's 3,000 metres semi-final at China's 7th National Games (AFP photo)

cended achievement — and if sporting prowess is anything to go by it might win them a few votes when the International Olympic Committee votes who gets the 2000 Olympics in 10 days' time.

The performances have sparked allegations of drug abuse from abroad but the Chinese have vehemently denied any wrongdoing.

Ma Junren, coach of the Chinese athletes now known as "Ma's Family Army," hit back at the accusations.

Wang's 3:51.92 also beat Kazankina's 3:52.47 so she could claim to have broken four world records — 1,500m, twice at 3,000m and 10,000m.

China now holds the world titles and records for the 1,500m, 3,000m and 10,000m — an unpre-

## U.S. Open

### Sampras supreme in 2nd U.S. Open triumph

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Pete Sampras took full advantage of Cedric Pioline's Grand Slam inexperience Sunday to beat the Frenchman in straight sets to win the 1993 U.S. Open tennis championship.

Sampras, who added the title to the 1990 U.S. Open crown and this year's Wimbledon title, said the trophy was far more important than the world number one ranking he regained on the way.

"Grand Slam titles, that's what it is all about," he said. "I think winning Grand Slams is more important than anything else."

While Sampras was playing in his third U.S. Open final in four years, Pioline was in his first Grand Slam final and trying for the first tournament victory of his career.

The jitters showed, especially in his serve. He made his eighth double fault of the match on Sampras' second match point.

Earlier he had double faulted on three break points, and he double faulted to set up Sampras' break in the opening set.

Nor was Pioline as effective from the baseline as he was in beating world number one Jim Courier in the fourth round.

In that match Pioline's heavy groundstrokes had proved devastating off both the forehand and backhand, but Sunday had the stroke keeping his accuracy.

"He got a bit tight on the break points," Sampras said. "He double faulted on some, so that's obviously what happened."

Sampras said it was a bit anti-climatic to win the match on Pioline's double.

"It would have been nicer to win it a couple of points before, when I made that great volley," Sampras said. "It's a great feeling."

Pioline, the first Frenchman to reach the U.S. Open final since Henri Cochet in 1932, never recovered. He did not have a single chance against Sampras serve in that set, which was over in just 37 minutes.

With the victory, Sampras became the first man since Boris Becker in 1989 to win both Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in one year.

He also achieved a measure of revenge for his defeat here last year, when he lost to Sweden's Stefan Edberg while still feeling the effects of an upset stomach he suffered the night before.

Edberg was one of the many early casualties of the tournament this year, along with Courier and Becker, French Open champion Sergi Bruguera and former Wimbledon champion Andre Agassi.

En route to the final, Sampras defeated France's Fabrice San-



Pete Sampras

tor, Czech Daniel Vacek, Frenchman Arnaud Boetsch, Swede Thomas Enqvist, Russian Alexander Volkov and his long-time rival Michael Chang, the seventh seed.

He said he had a better understanding of the importance of his achievement than he did when he won his first U.S. Open title in 1990, at the age of 19.

"Last time, it happened too fast," he said. "I can appreciate it more now."

Pioline, the highest ranked player in the men's game who has never won a title, could have become the first player since Mats Wilander to win the French Open in 1982 to claim his first at a Grand Slam.

But his accomplishment at this U.S. Open is in the record books and he seems poised for future stardom.

Last year, Pioline entered the Open ranked 60th. He will leave this year as number 11 after becoming only the fourth Frenchman in the history of the U.S. nationals to reach the final.

Sampras said the wave of shock results at this year's tournament was due to the depth of top-class talent in tennis today.

"There are a lot of upsets these days versus 10 years ago. You used to expect McEnroe, Connors, Lendl and Borg in the

semifinals, whereas today it is a different story. There are so many guys out there that are dangerous."

"(Karel) Novakova beats Stefan Edberg and Boris Becker loses to (Magnus) Larsson. Those guys are ranked 30, 40, 50 in the world. You just see that 10 years ago."

Steffi Graf kept her cool to lift the women's title with an easy 6-3 6-3 win against 12th seed Helena Sukova of the Czech Republic.

But while Graf and Sampras emerged triumphant and cemented their positions at the top of the rankings, many of their rivals seemed to regard the tournament as a chamber of horrors both on and off the court.

A record five men's seeds were eliminated in the first round and a record seven were gone by the second round, including two-times champion Edberg.

There were shocks in the women's event too. Jennifer Capriati was knocked out on the second day and four-times champion Matina Navratilova went down in the round of 16.

Players found plenty to moan and groan about — from the food at Flushing Meadow to New York's traffic jams.

"It is not really comfortable off-court here. The locker rooms are bad. The lounge is very crowded," said top seed Jim Courier before he bowed out to Pioline in the last 16.

Courier said he was frustrated by variations in the condition of the courts.

Eighth seed Andrei Medvedev of Ukraine braved the tournament as "the worst Grand Slam" after losing to Pioline in the quarter-finals.

**Graf looking for more competition**

Steffi Graf would like nothing better than to get some more competition.

"It was an incredible year, and I'm very happy about it," Graf said after winning the U.S. Open for the third time and her third consecutive Grand Slam tournament title. "But one player who has not been around for the last three Grand Slams — that's Monica Seles — I hope she'll be back soon."

Graf's only Grand Slam loss this year came in the Australian Open final in January — to Seles, and Seles is the one who has dominated women's tennis since Graf won a Grand Slam in 1988.

But Seles was stabbed in the back by a Graf fan during a tournament in Hamburg, Germany, April 30 and has yet to be heard sufficiently to be able to play

again. And since she's been sidelined, Graf has been unstoppable.

Her win over Helena Sukova Saturday was the 14th Grand Slam crown of her career.

Graf defeated Mary Joe Fernandez to capture the French Open, Jana Novotna to triumph at Wimbledon, and finally Sukova.

"I think it's a great achievement to have been able to win three grand slams and be in the final of the other one," Graf said. "And having the possibility to even have a Grand Slam. I had it once. That's fine."

Graf's French Open victory boosted her back into the No. 1 spot on the Virginia Slims computer ranking, replacing Seles.

"Sure it helps to have a player who pushes me more," Graf said in acknowledging Seles' absence. "But I'm not necessarily a person who needs it, because I like to push myself. When I realize how well I'm playing, it's really difficult to do something against me."

Her latest title was Graf's eighth of 1993 and ran her U.S. Open match record to 51-7. So far this year, she is 63-5.

**Another title for Sukova**

Helena Sukova, playing in her third U.S. Open final in four days, claimed her second title Sunday as she and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario won the women's doubles.

Sukova and Sanchez Vicario defeated South African Amanda Coetzer and Argentinian Ines Gorrochategui 6-4 6-2 in the final.

Sukova, who was the 12th seed in the women's singles, lost to top-seeded Steffi Graf in the women's final Saturday.

On Thursday, she had won the mixed doubles title with Australian Todd Woodbridge.

They defeated Martina Navratilova and Aussie Mark Woodforde.

En route to the doubles title, Sukova and Sanchez Vicario upset the top-seeded pair of Natalia Zvereva and Gigi Fernandez.

Zvereva and Fernandez had been on course for a doubles Grand Slam, after winning the titles at the Australian Open, French Open and Wimbledon this year.

Sukova's earnings for the tournament totalled about \$400,000, but she said the victories were more important.

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#### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

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TIMING IS EVERYTHING

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH ♠ K Q 8 7 4 2

♦ Q 5 2

♣ K 3

♦ 8 6 3

WEST ♠ A J 10

♦ 7 3

♦ 10 8 6 4

♦ Q 9 7

♦ J 7 5 4 2

SOUTH ♠ 5 3

♦ A Q 10 4

♦ A 7 6 2

♦ K 9

The bidding

East South West North

1 NT Pass 3 ♠

Pass 3 NT Pass Pass

Opening lead: Seven of ♦

We are often asked by a reader:

"How do you play this combination?" followed by some number

of cards in a suit in the dummy and declarer hands. Our standard reply

is that we don't know!

The right play is governed by how many tricks

you need from the suit, what you

know about the opponents' hands

and several other factors. This hand

is from a reader.

Look at the difference if, at trick

two, declarer leads a spade and

ducks it in dummy! East wins and

continues a heart. Declarer finesse

the ten and reverts to a spade,

# 10 Middle East Peace Process

JORDAN TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1993

## World Bank urges aid for autonomy

**WASHINGTON (Agencies)** — The World Bank called on the international community Monday to provide immediate financial assistance for economic and social assistance to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

Ca Koch-Weser, World Bank vice-president for Middle Eastern affairs, said immediate assistance and long-term assistance is needed as part of the bank's ten-year, \$3 billion development plan for the region.

"Time is of the essence" for both immediate rehabilitation and long-term development needs, Mr. Koch-Weser said as he began a two-hour meeting with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat.

He met with Mr. Arafat several hours before the signing of a Palestinian autonomy accord here with Israel providing for Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho before it is later extended to the entire West Bank.

"The World Bank offered to be a close partner in development and we will work very closely with the Palestinians," said Mr. Koch-Weser.

"As an international institution, we're going to continue our close partnership with the Israelis and Palestinians in mobilising these resources and providing technical assistance and advice and help," he added.

### EC announces aid

The European Community agreed Monday to pay an extra 20 million ECU (about \$23 million) this year to help finance Palestinian autonomy in Jericho and Gaza.

The decision, to help implement the Israeli-Palestinian autonomy accord, was announced in a statement issued at a meeting of EC finance ministers.

The ministers also agreed to give urgent attention to an EC proposal for a 500 million ECU (about \$575 million) five-year programme for development aid in the West Bank and Gaza.

The 500 million ECU programme, presented by the EC's Executive European Commission last week, was endorsed by foreign ministers at a meeting at Alden Biesen, Belgium, at the weekend.

Diplomats said approval was a mere formality which would come soon.

## U.S. troops possible in Golan Heights — Christopher

**NEW YORK (R)** — United States troops could be deployed in the Golan Heights under any peace accord between Israel and Syria, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said Sunday.

Asked on CBS television if the presence of U.S. forces in the Golan Heights, which Israel seized from Syria in 1967, might be part of any agreement between the two countries, he said "Absolutely."

"...any new agreement between (the m) ... might well mean some kind of U.S. forces in the Golan...." he said when asked about a U.S. role in peace between Syria and Israel.

"As you know we have had an important role in connection with the (1979 Israel and) Egypt agreement. We provide a level of security in the Sinai and there may be a comparable role for the United States in the Golan Heights to give an assurance of security to Israel..." Mr. Christopher said.

"Our bedrock commitment to Israel for its security remains.... We would approach any new agreement between Israel and Syria in the same spirit and so it might well mean some kind of U.S. forces in the Golan just as we've long provided forces in the

statement said the new \$20 million ECU grant would be added to an amount of 70 million ECU (\$82 million) already budgeted this year for Palestinian communities.

He said the money would be spent mainly on education, health, food aid and helping small businesses get started.

The ministers added that the EC had already contributed close to one billion ECU (\$1.15 billion) to the Palestinian population over the last few years.

"The community plans for the up-coming five-year period also comprise substantial assistance to neighbouring countries affected by the peace process," the statement said.

The foreign ministers agreed at the weekend that EC aid to the Middle East region should aim at promoting inter-Arab cooperation among former adversaries.

The \$50 million ECU, to be supplied over the five-year life of the peace agreement, is essentially aimed at financing infrastructure which Israel should have provided as the occupying power, an EC official said.

He said a special effort would be in Gaza, which he described as a "big waste disposal area" with no telephone service, unhealthy water, and one of the world's highest birth and unemployment rates.

Construction of a 200-bed hospital in Gaza is currently the EC's biggest project. The official said the commission was designing waste disposal systems for garbage now thrown into the Mediterranean and for the Rafah refugee camp in the south.

### Annex IV of the Israeli-Palestinian agreement says:

"The two sides will cooperate in the context of the multilateral peace efforts in promoting a development programme for the region, including the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, to be initiated by the G-7. The parties will request the G-7 to seek the participation in this programme of other interested states, such as members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development regional, Arab states and institutions, as well as members of the private sector.

The development programme will consist of two elements: A) An economic development programme for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip; B) A Regional economic development programme.



Palestinians celebrate in Jericho in a rally for peace before Monday's signing in Washington between

Israel and the PLO for an accord granting autonomy for the Palestinians in the occupied territories (AP photo)

## No flags, no anthems, every detail scripted

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The ceremony was choreographed down to the last footstep. The White House was taking no chances of a protocol landmine shattering the fragile peace dawn between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Finally, as Mr. Arafat and Mr. Rabin looked on, Mr. Christopher and Mr. Kozyrev affixed their signatures as witnesses, their golden pens flickering in the mid-day sun.

The accord was signed at the same walnut conference table on which the 1979 Egypt-Israel peace treaty was signed at the White House. Bought by President Grant in 1869, it has more recently been housed in the Treaty Room and was used to sign treaties and agreements with former Soviet republics in 1992.

One of the few moves left without a seeming blueprint was the question of whether Mr. Arafat and Mr. Rabin would shake hands. Both left open the possibility that they might. Mr. Arafat made the first move and, after hesitating briefly, Mr. Rabin grasped his hand.

The ceremony closed with remarks by Mr. Christopher, Mr. Kozyrev, Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat, who also spoke in Arabic, followed by brief closing comments by Mr. Clinton. Mr. Clinton then led his guests down to the audience to shake hands with dignitaries, among them Mr. Bush, former Secretary of State James Baker and Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

### Last minute change

A last-minute dispute over the wording of the peace agreement between Israel and the PLO resulted in a small but significant change in the text just before the document was signed Monday.

A White House official who spoke on condition of anonymity said that in the Blue Room reception just before the signing ceremony, the word "Palestinian" was changed to "PLO" in the preamble of the agreement.

Another administration official said the same change was made in other parts of the agreement as well.

The change was made at the request of the PLO and written into the agreement by Martin Indyk, a National Security Council official.

Earlier Monday, a Norwegian peace negotiator had said that Israel refused PLO requests to change the text.

The agreement had been finalized in Oslo on Aug. 19, after months of secret negotiations led by a small team of Norwegians, including Foreign Minister Jonas Jorgen Holst.

In Washington, Mr. Arafat demanded that the wording be changed so that it referred to the PLO instead of the Palestinian delegation. Norwegian state radio, NRK, and the national news agency, NTB, reported.

## Even speeches reflected unequal balance of power

By Ayman al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

**AMMAN** — The terms of the Israeli-Palestinian self-rule agreement reflected the balance of power between the two sides. So in fact did the speeches that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat gave at the signing ceremony of the agreement at the White House yesterday.

Mr. Rabin spoke the words of a leader of a people who knows that the balance of power is tilted in his favour. Mr. Arafat's speech, on the other hand, clearly indicated that its choices are limited to what the Israelis are willing to give, what the international community would support and make possible.

### COMMENTARY

While Mr. Rabin emphasized the unease with which his government is turning a new page in its relations with Palestinians, summoned the past as a witness to their "rights" in the occupied territories, Mr. Arafat mainly spoke of the future and the hope for better life for both the Palestinians and the Israelis.

Mr. Rabin spoke of the Israeli soldiers who died while fighting the Palestinians, "the parents who buried their sons," and the suffering of the Jews in the holocaust. Mr. Arafat, however, failed to mention the Palestinians who have been killed at the hands of the Israelis and the children who grew up as orphans in camps.

He only briefly referred to the historic injustices that was done to the Palestinian people.

The Israeli prime minister spoke of Jerusalem as "the

## COLUMN 10

### Michael Jackson gets to Moscow

**MOSCOW (R)** — Pop superstar Michael Jackson has arrived for his first Moscow concert, but the price of tickets meant he will remain as far removed from most of his fans as rock stars ever were during the Soviet era. In Soviet days, pop stars like Jackson were officially shunned as subversive elements, corrupting the young with loose morals and politically non-correct lyrics. Now, with ticket prices for the show starting at \$11 in a country with an average monthly wage of about \$50, cost is the main factor determining fans. Michael's visit here is a miracle," said 21-year-old student Vladimir Shubin. "But this miracle is not for me and for many like me. Where do they think I will find all this money? They are crazy." Vladimir, red-faced after struggling in vain to force his way through a police cordon to get free ticket, was one of 250 fans who came to see the star arrive at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport. He said he would not attend the show.

Natalia, 17, was luckier, emerging clutching a brace of 18 tickets. "The girls in my class clubbed together to buy two tickets," she said. "Now I have one dream left — to see Michael face to face."

### 'Fallen' Irish women reinterred after exhumation

**DUBLIN (R)** — The remains of 133 deceased women have been reinterred after the graveyards where they were buried was sold off by an order of Dublin nuns to repay debts. The "fallen" women were unmarried mothers, prostitutes, orphans and destitutes who had been taken in by the Sisters of Our Lady Of Charity in the 19th century to work in the convent laundry. The bodies were exhumed, cremated and buried at another Dublin cemetery over the weekend. The women's original resting place has been sold to pay off debts incurred by the nuns — opening a hostel for fallen women.

### Hallstorm damages Hong Kong Jetliner over China

**HONG KONG (AP)** — A severe hallstorm damaged a Lockheed TriStar carrying 300 people, including Britain's ambassador to China, as the jetliner approached Peking on a flight from Hong Kong. Dragon Airlines reported Monday. Jackui Donaldson, spokeswoman of the Hong Kong airline, said the storm rocked flight KA330 Saturday and damaged cockpit windows and the radar dome in the plane's nose cone. She said no one was injured, and the plane returned to Hong Kong without landing in Peking, whose airport closed because of the storm. The woman's original resting place has been sold to pay off debts incurred by the nuns — opening a hostel for fallen women.

The survey also indicated that Palestinians and Israelis overwhelmingly support calls for a national referendum to win wider support for the peace plan, which will give Palestinians autonomy in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and the town of Jericho in the occupied West Bank.

The survey of Palestinians was conducted in the West Bank and Gaza Strip by the Center for Palestine Research and Studies, based in the West Bank town of Nablus. It was taken on Friday and Saturday, just as Israel and the PLO signed a mutual recognition agreement.

It showed 65 per cent supported a second agreement signed on Monday, this one granting limited self-rule to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank city of Jericho. Twenty-seven per cent were opposed, and six per cent had no opinion.

The survey also indicated that while he was sure he currently enjoyed the support of most Israelis, the situation might not be the same in a year.

He said he would have to scramble to win the backing of a majority of Jewish lawmakers when the plan on Palestinian self-rule comes up for a vote.

"It's a problem — I cannot deny it," he said of the parliamentary battle to come.

Although ruling out new elections, he said that a referendum on the PLO accord was possible if the deal fell through in parliament.

In the interview, conducted on Saturday in Jerusalem, Mr. Rabin, a former soldier, said it was hard for him personally to make peace with the PLO, and harder still to sell the idea to the families of Israelis "who fought the PLO terror groups and lost their lives."

The reaction in Israel to Monday's signing of the agreement was mostly muted.

In occupied Jerusalem, about 150 people gathered in a downtown park at a rally sponsored by the group Peace. Now, singing pacifist songs and watching a live broadcast of the White House signing ceremony.

The military and police force cancelled all leave and deployed reinforcements to prevent possible attacks by hardline groups opposed to the peace deal.

"We know that fundamentalists want to torpedo the peace process and will continue their attacks. If we have to, we will strike back very hard," said Mr. Rabin.

Four Israelis — three soldiers and a bus driver — were killed Sunday in attacks claimed by the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas).

The three Israeli soldiers were killed in an ambush in the Gaza Strip while a lone Palestinian stabbed a bus driver to death before being shot dead by a soldier.

Four other Palestinians also died on the eve of the signing of the pact, Palestinian sources said. Two died while mishandling a grenade, one in a fatal suicide attack and another who was run over by a policeman, they said.

The military decided to cut down even further on the number of Palestinians from the occupied territories allowed into Israel, but had not been completely sealed them off for "political reasons," military sources said.

PEKING (AFP) — China has set up a special hotline which the public can phone to denounce neighbours suspected of violating customs laws and receive a reward if they are right, the official China Daily reported Monday. All the offices of the General Administration of Customs are now equipped with the special number, it said. Those whose denunciations lead to seizure of contraband goods will get a reward of 10 per cent of the item's value, to a maximum of 100,000 yuan (\$17,000). Cases of smuggling rose 60 per cent in the first half of the year compared with January-June 1992.

Oprah takes the cake

**NEW YORK (R)** — U.S. entertainer Bill Cosby was nudged out of first place on the Forbes magazine annual list of entertainment millionaires by talk show host Oprah Winfrey. Winfrey pulls in the biggest bucks in entertainment, and with an estimated \$98 million over two years she has become the first woman to top Forbes' magazine annual list.

She owns "The Oprah Winfrey Show," seen around the United States and in 64 countries.

## PLA commander says he will not face civil war

**CAIRO (R)** — The commander of the Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) Monday dismissed the prospect of civil war when his forces return to Gaza after 26 years in exile in Egypt.

"They are all our relatives there and they are waiting for us to return. There will be no bloodshed when we return. We will not have another Afghanistan," Lieutenant-General Abdul Hai Abdul Wahed told Reuters in an interview.

The 54-year-old commander also made it clear where his loyalty lay should Palestinians in the narrow strip object to the agreement that Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed later Monday.

"I want to add that we follow Abu Ammar's (Arafat) orders. We follow him by name," he said.

Gen. Abdul Wahed and other

PLA sources said the group, formed as a Palestinian army in 1953, was training to become the peace treaty in Gaza, some analysts believe security will be the future Palestinian government's hardest task.

Gen. Abdul Wahed said PLA brigades based in Jordan and Iraq would not return to the territories. He did not say why.

The PLA started life under the jurisdiction of Egypt, which assumed responsibility for Gaza after the creation of the state of Israel in 1948.

With the formation of the PLO in 1965, the soldiers became its troops and were known as the Palestine Liberation Army.

According to the terms of the peace treaty, Israeli troops will withdraw from Gaza and Jericho within six months but will remain responsible for external security. Palestinians will control internal security and public order.

With a five-year-old intifada to

awarded medals for bravery by late President Anwar Sadat.

He said the current training exercises were an internal Palestinian affair, but that the Egyptian army "give us help when we ask for it."

Gen. Abdul Wahed, who declined to say how many men were under his command, dismissed the worries of some Palestinians that the treaty does not guarantee the setting up of their own state and that it neglected the issue of Jerusalem.

"This is the beginning of a solution. As long as they have discussed something it will happen. Some people are worried about Jerusalem. They've discussed that Jerusalem is our home. It is the capital of the Palestinian state," he said.

"There will be a Palestinian state in a short time. It is a matter of trust, and the psychological barrier has been broken," he added.

On the question of a referendum, 65 per cent said they wanted a national vote on the peace plan, while 35 per cent said there was no need, the newspaper reported.

It said 526 Israeli Jews were questioned for the poll but gave no margin of error. More details were to be released Monday in New York City, the newspaper said.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said in an interview that while his accord with the PLO might not be the best possible deal for Israel, he was not concerned because his government would negotiate peace from a "standpoint of strength."

In an interview published in Monday's editions of the New York Times, Mr. Rabin offered

OPR, in 1992